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A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*d*) of question No. 655 given on 22nd October 1927 under question No. 833 from which it will be seen that certain areas were not included in the ayacut of the Pedalanka channel. The Government are not aware that as a consequence many ryots became poor.

(*c*) So far as the Government are aware the lands were not relinquished. The special division which is proposed to be sanctioned from 1st April 1929, for the investigation of the "Short crop" scheme in the Kistna delta will consider the question of the inclusion in the short crop ayacut of the lands not included under the Pedalanka channel.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether it is a fact that in the tail end of the channel, on account of want of repairs, the ryots are suffering very much?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"It is not a question of lack of water but it is one of too much of water. The drainage is defective."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I am speaking of the want of repairs to the channel in the tail end?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"Repairing the channel won't help them if arrangements are not made for the large volume of drainage water to be discharged into the sea with sufficient quickness."

Damages to roads in Cocanada by the recent rains.

*1007 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether large volumes of water from the uplands and other areas flowed through the Yeleru bridge of Cocanada during the recent rains; and

(*b*) whether on account of the inundation the adjacent roads were washed away?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Executive Engineer's report, dated 1st November 1928, which has been laid on the table [a] along with the Collector's reports on the floods in Vizagapatam and East Godavari. The Government have no further information on the matter.

Alleged modifications in the supply of water by turns to the irrigation channels from the Lower Anicut.

*1008-A *Q.*—Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Lower Anicut was intended more for the benefit of the South Arcot district than for that of the Tanjore district;

(*b*) whether any alterations or modifications in supplying water in turns (at the Lower Anicut) to the different irrigation channels originating from the Lower Anicut have recently been effected by the Public Works Department;

(*c*) if so, when and why;

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[a] Laid on the table on 26th November 1928.

(*d*) whether the Collector of South Arcot and the ryots affected were consulted before such alterations were made;

(*e*) whether turns and supplies are given to each irrigation channel originating from the Lower Anicut in proportion to the extent of the ayacut under each such channel;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the Khan Sahib's canal was irrigating its ayacut from the supply of the Coleroon North Rajan channel;

(*g*) if the answer is in the affirmative, why such supply from Coleroon North Rajan channel to the Khan Sahib's ayacut has been stopped and what is the present irrigation source for the ayacut under the Khan Sahib's canal;

(*h*) what are the circumstances that led the department to stop the above supply from Coleroon North Rajan channel to the ayacut under the Khan Sahib's canal without consulting the ryots affected thereby;

(*i*) whether the Lower Anicut originally consisted of 36 vents of each side of the central plateau;

(*j*) what led to the recent inclusion of fourteen more vents on the south side alone; and

(*k*) when the dispute about the source of the Khan Sahib's canal was settled and what are the decisions of such settlement, if any?

A.—(*a*) The areas irrigated by the Lower Coleroon Anicut System in the South Arcot (including Veeranam tank) and Tanjore districts during 1926–27 were 89,567 and 24,946 acres respectively (1st and 2nd crop). In this sense the system may be said to benefit South Arcot more than Tanjore.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) During times when water was scarce in 1927 and 1928 the local officers distributed the available supply according to the ayacuts under the several channels.

(*d*) A report was sent to the Collector; the modified regulation was only temporary.

(*e*) Yes, as a temporary measure.

(*f*) The Khan Sahib's canal generally depends on drainage flow for its irrigation. If there is water to spare from the North Rajan channel after meeting its own requirements, it is given to the Khan Sahib's canal. For this purpose a vent was opened in the Puliyangudi aqueduct of the North Rajan channel.

(*g*), (*h*) & (*k*) There is no change in the source of supply. The canal is given a supply from the North Rajan channel through the Puliyangudi aqueduct, when water is available.

(*i*) & (*j*) The Lower Coleroon Anicut had originally 30 vents in each of its north and south branches. The floods of 1924 showed that the number of vents was inadequate. Therefore ten more vents have been added to the south branch. Two of these are on the southern side of the south branch and are intended to keep the approach to the South Rajan channel clear of silt. The location of the other eight vents on the northern side of the south branch was determined by considerations of convenience of construction.

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Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"With reference to the answers to questions (g) & (h), may I know why the new clause is added 'when water is available'?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"Because we cannot give water when it is not available."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"As far as I know, I would like the hon. Member to contradict me, there has been no such limitation hitherto."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"I cannot conceive of there ever being a rule that water is to be supplied when it is not available; but if the hon. Member could explain more clearly what he has in his mind, I shall certainly be prepared to make enquiries."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"May I ask, Sir, that the Government be pleased to make enquiries as to whether it has not been the practice to divide the water in times of scarcity also between the North Rajan Channel and the Khan Sahib's Canal?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"Possibly, the Chief Engineers may understand what the hon. Member means and I shall be glad to ask them about it."

Supply of water to Veeranam tank from Vadavar.

*1008-B Q.—Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Vadavar has been the feeding source for Veeranam tank from time immemorial;

(b) whether it is still continued as such; if not, why not;

(c) what are the original sources of supply to the Veeranam tank;

(d) what is the quantity of supply allowed in Vadavar now;

(e) whether the quantity of water supplied is intended for irrigating the ayacut under it alone which is only 14,000 acres or for feeding the Veeranam tank also whose ayacut is 56,000 acres; and

(f) if it is intended for the former only, what were the circumstances that led to the omission of the supply to Veeranam tank?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rain falling on its own catchment of 195 square miles, besides the supply received from the Vadavar, and a supply from the Vellar during north-east monsoon.

(d) The supply depends on the flow available in the Coleroon. The Vadavar carries a supply of 2,200 cu secs, whenever the supply in the Coleroon permits this.

(e) The excess supply available after meeting the demands of direct irrigation will feed the Veeranam tank.

(f) Does not arise.

Irrigation of lands under the Veeranam tank.

*1008-C Q.—Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Veeranam tank water is often taken for irrigating the ayacuts under the Vellar; and